

AIR

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~~Secret~~

Chief, LINCOLN

RYBAT/PBSUCCESS

5 April 1954

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Operational

Developments in Assigned Tasks

1. Due to his position with regard to the current trial of seven alleged Communists, ERCASTERION states that his acceptance by the Communists has been greatly improved. He has not been arrested, and at present it does not appear likely that he will be; however, it may be necessary to pay a small fine for him. There have been no other developments with regard to the PT Tasks since the last report. However, it should be pointed out that the problem of making contact with SCRANTON and SAFANAC personnel as of a given time is difficult, as they are not in Managua so the signal for a meeting with the cut-out cannot be observed. It is sometimes several days between their trips to Managua, and all that can be done is to keep the signal hoisted until they make contact. It is suggested that [] be authorized to use radio communication with SCRANTON through headquarters to make contact appointments with Middlecott or Pivall when necessary. The reverse procedure has been used once very effectively by SCRANTON.
2. PT task. This was progressing well until the principal agent was proved unusable due to his lack of security consciousness. Since receipt of this information, ERPSIN and ERGOTIMINE have been assigned to secure background information on WSBURNT citizens in exile living in Managua, but this is a slow process. A complete list of WSBURNT citizens living in Nicaragua has been obtained, and is being forwarded to [] for name checks and any suggestions as to a likely candidate to replace the former principal agent; it is hoped that in this manner the implementation of the task can be speeded up considerably.

Francis D. Magoffin

5 April 1954

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